

REMARKS

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on October 10, 2007, in this application. Claims 1-19 are presented for examination. Claim 1 is hereby amended.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,103,304 (Turcheck).

Claim 1 recites:

1. An apparatus for acquiring image information using an array of an image acquisition units, each having an optical device, comprising:

a geometric array of image acquisition units, each having an image collecting lens unit, optical fiber bundle transmitting the light signal collected through the image collecting lens, and an image sensor unit transforming the transmitted light signal into an electric signal; and

an image signal output unit for receiving the electrical signal from the array and then generating a source electrical signal to process analog image.

(Emphasis added.)

Turcheck fails to disclose at least the limitations “a geometric array of image acquisition units, each having an image collecting lens unit, optical fiber bundle transmitting the light signal collected through the image collecting lens, and an image sensor unit transforming the transmitted light signal into an electric signal,” as claimed in claim 1. Because Turcheck fails to disclose each and every limitation of claim 1, it cannot anticipate claim 1, and the rejection should therefore be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 3, and 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Turcheck. These claims are dependent claims dependent on claim 1 which, as described above, is patentable over Turcheck. Therefore, claims 2, 3, and 7-10 are also patentable, for at least this reason, and the corresponding rejections should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication that claims 4-6 would be allowable if re-written in independent form. However, as these claims are dependent claims depending on amended claim 1 which, as described above, is patentable, claims 4-6 are also patentable, for at least this reason, and the objections to these claims should be withdrawn.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 11-19.

Conclusion

In view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. A favorable disposition to that effect is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due with this Response. However, please charge any fee that may be due or credit any overpayment to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning this submission, he is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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